

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Polish Occupied ~~Area~~ ~~Poland~~ REPORT
TOPIC Soviet and Polish Troops in ~~Stettin~~ Szczecin (Stettin)

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 23 May 1955REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. In December 1953 and February 1954, the former Infanterie Kaserne on the northeast side of ul. Mickiewicza in Stettin (O 54/Q 55) was occupied by Soviet troops. Each morning, three or four trucks which were occupied to capacity by Soviet soldiers left this installation for the area of the free port which was under Soviet administration. From there the soldiers were also taken back to their billets on trucks. No Soviet tanks or other heavy weapons were ever observed in this installation or in the streets of the city. Only Polish tanks which were painted with white eagle emblems were seen passing through the streets. Prior to May 1954, limited activity was observed only in the area of the free port where Soviets were exclusively employed after the discharge of all Germans.
2. In October 1952, the Soviet billeting and office quarter in the northwestern sector of Stettin, in particular on Piotra Skargi, Aleja Wojska Polskiego and P.Wawrzyniaka was dissolved. All residents of this quarter including civilians were quartered in the Soviet-occupied former Infanterie Kaserne. Prior to May 1954, no Soviet military offices were known to be located in the downtown sector. In the spring of 1954, the former St. Petri Hospital on the northwest side of ul. Piotra Skargi which formerly housed the Soviet headquarters at the station was used as a hospital of the Polish Armed Forces. In the spring of 1954, only a Soviet laundry was maintained in the former Diakonissen- und Krankenhaus Bethanien (deaconesses' home and hospital) which formerly housed various Soviet installations. The "Deutsche Club" was also still located in this building. About two years ago, the administration of the Polish Armed Forces also took over the Soviet Army bakery in the former Zuellchow bread factory on the north side of ul. Robotnicza. ¹
3. Prior to the spring of 1954, intensive staff activities which at all times involved numerous high-ranking officers were constantly observed in the building of the former German Army Wehrkreisverwaltung (military district headquarters) on the northwest side of ul. Bogd. Zaleskiego. Whenever the troops were absent from their station on the occasion of summer exercises, activity also essentially decreased at this headquarters building. The number of sedans observed at this building during these periods was also

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greatly reduced compared to the winter months. It was known that a military court was also located in this building. 2

At the time of the summer exercises, the units of the Stettin station went to a troop training grounds in Pomerania. The troops were observed entraining in the area of the Turzyn (Torney) railroad station for the last time in the early summer of 1953. Motorized infantry units only and no tanks were seen on this occasion. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] no change was noticed in the Polish troops at the station. Uniforms in the streets were unchanged. Soldiers observed were usually Polish; on exceptional occasions, members of the Soviet armed forces were seen.

4. The barracks installation on the southwest side of Al. Wojska Polskiego the area of which was only slightly extended by new buildings compared to the situation under the Germans, quartered Polish infantrymen. The road space of the troops who returned to the installation on foot in October 1953 was estimated at about 1 kilometer. The soldiers wore red service color. No armored units were observed at the installation.
5. Prior to the spring of 1954, Polish border guard troops (WOP) who wore green service color were quartered in the former Infanterie Kaserne on the southwest side of ul. Mickiewicza, opposite the Soviet-occupied barracks installation.
6. Prior to March 1954, Polish Army troops who wore red service color and carried small arms were observed in the former Flak Kaserne which was bounded by Mickiewicza, Wernyhory, Klonowicza and Janickiego. Soldiers wearing gray blue uniforms were also observed in this installation. [REDACTED]
7. In February 1954, the former Neue Artillerie Kaserne on the north side of ul. Macieja Rataja, formerly Pasewalker Chaussee, was observed from the cemeteries. Polish soldiers who carried rifles and submachine guns marched from this installation to the Turzyn target range. From outside no damage was noticed to the buildings of the installation. German residents of Stettin said that only infantrymen were located in this installation. No tank troops were apparently stationed there.
8. Prior to the spring of 1954, the former Grenadier Kaserne in the southern sector of the city which was bounded by Narutowicza, Potulicka, Sambora and Kopernika, quartered soldiers who were housed in undestroyed sections of buildings on Potulicka. No labor service offices were located in the installation. Except for the masts, the former radio station in the southeastern section of the installation was destroyed. Some sections of this installation were still in damaged condition. Prior to January 1954, the former Alte Artillerie Kaserne on Kaszubska, formerly Elisabeth Strasse, was occupied by militia (MO) offices and supply installations. The former Artillerie Kaserne on Narutowicza, formerly Friedrich Strasse, included only a limited number of undestroyed buildings which quartered Polish Army troops. That section of this formerly large installation was partitioned by a woven-wire fence from the houses on ul. Gen. Sowinskiego, formerly Koerner Strasse, which were still inhabited. [REDACTED] workers, a large service station which included four [REDACTED] was located in the fenced-in section of the installation.
9. In the spring of 1954, all other former barracks installations and military buildings in the area of Kilinskiego, formerly Luetzow Strasse, Narutowicza, Glowackiego, formerly Kleist Strasse, and Gen. Sowinskiego were destroyed and unoccupied.
10. Prior to the spring of 1954, the former Viktoria Kaserne on the south side of ul. Gen. Sowinskiego which extended as far as the intersection of ul. Gen. Sowinskiego and Al. Piastow, formerly Barnim Strasse, quartered security troops who wore blue service color.

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11. A large four-story warehouse of the armed forces whose windows were painted blue was located on ul. Lubeckiego off the terminal of streetcar line No 5 in Zelechowa Borough, formerly Zuellchow Borough, in the northeastern sector of the city. The site was surrounded by a wire fence and had a railroad spur with a ramp. It was believed that the installation was a ration supply depot of the armed forces. The former German Army ration supply office on the north side of ul. Narutowicza, formerly Friedrich Strasse, was completely destroyed. Prior to the spring of 1954, no damage was observed in the area of the former German Army ordnance sub-depot, just west of the Turzyn railroad station. The use of this installation was unknown. The target ranges adjacent to the former ordnance sub-depot were constantly used by Polish troops. 3

1. Comment. It is noted that there is a trend of concentrating, to a greater extent, those Soviet offices and units which are located in Stettin in the former Infanterie Kaserne which has always been occupied by Soviet troops.

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2. Comment. The building of the former German military district headquarters houses the main station komendatura, and apparently, also the headquarters of the 12th Inf Div.

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3. Comment. The installations which are mentioned in paragraphs 4 to 11 of the present report are already known.

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